



NEWS RELEASE

**Bluebell Railway amongst the winners in  
the Lewes District Business Awards 2017**

Organised by the Lewes District Council, the Lewes District Business Awards recognise and celebrate business excellence amongst the local business community.

The winners of the 2017 awards were announced at an event held at Lewes Town Hall on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July, where over 220 people attended including 46 finalists. In all, fourteen trophies were presented by BBC News correspondent Ben Brown.

Winning categories included *Company of the Year*, *Best Place to Entertain Clients*, *Business Person of the Year* and *Best Business Growth*.

The Bluebell Railway was extremely proud to win the award for *Culture, Leisure and Tourism*.

Now in their fourth year, the awards offer a fantastic opportunity for many different types of businesses to come together and celebrate the District's business talent and achievement, recognising success, innovation and excellence amongst the business community.

The winners were chosen by a panel of well-respected judges from companies and firms operating in the area.

The team at the event representing the Bluebell Railway included Graham Aitken, Chairman - Bluebell Railway Preservation Society and Dick Fearn, Chairman - Bluebell Railway Plc. In accepting the award Dick Fearn said: -

*On behalf of all staff and volunteers at the Bluebell Railway who work so hard to ensure all our visitors enjoy a great day out on our historic steam railway, I am delighted to accept this award.*

*For almost 60 years since the line was finally closed by British Railways in 1958, the Bluebell Railway has recreated the golden age of steam. Each year the Railway brings pleasure to thousands of people of all ages as they journey through this beautiful corner of unspoilt Sussex countryside.*

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